

1 **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

2 A parachute canopy release mechanism. The canopy release
3 releasably holds a strap holding member. The strap holding
4 member is released by movement of a latch, which in turn is
5 released by an actuating lever which is protected against
6 inadvertent opening by a cover. The cover has a cover lock which
7 further prevents the inadvertent release of the latch. The
8 release mechanism can have a removable triggering unit which is
9 activated when the mechanism is exposed to water.